

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6340

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 15271

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR-1, AUG 22, 1973

FOLLOWING MSG RECEIVED FROM AMCONSUL DANANG AUG 22, 1973

REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO.

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 1043

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT MILI VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR-1, AUGUST 22, 1973

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

A. AUGUST 21 - I CORPS HEADQUARTERS BRIEFING: TEN CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS REPORTED CONSISTING OF TWO GROUND ATTACKS, SIX ATTACKS BY FIRE, AND TQO HARASYMENZS. GVN CASUALTIES: KOUR KIA, ONE MIA, TWENTY-THREE WIA. PRG/NVA CASUALTIES: RFIFZEEN KIA. ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE ROUNDS OF FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS; TWO HUNDRED FORTY SIX ROUNDS FIRED SOUTH.

B. AUGUST 22 - FOURTEEN CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS CONSISTING OF ONE GROUND ATTACK, NINE ATTACKS BY FIRE, AND TWO HARASS-
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MENTS. GVN CASUALTIES; SEVEN KIA, THIRTY-FIVE WIA. PRG/NVA

CASUALTIES; FIVE KIA. ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY
ROUNDS OF FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED NORTH OF THE HAI VAN
PASS; SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY FOUR FIRED SOUTH.

C. ARRO HUE REPORTS THAT THE ENEMY CONTINUES TO HARASS
ROAD BUILDING AND RESUPPLY EFFORTS AT BACH MA MOUNTAIN
(ZC060915) IN PHU LOC DISTRICT. ON AUGUST 20 FOUR SUPPLY
HELICOPTERS ATTEMPTING TO LAND AT THE MOUNTAIN TOP OUTPOST
WERE DRIVEN OFF BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE. ALTHOUGH PROVINCE
AND I CORPS FORWARD OFFICERS RECOGNIZE THAT THE BACH MA ROAD
CANNOT BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE ONSET OF THE RAINY SEASON,
ARVN ENGINEERS RESUMED THEIR EFFORTS ON AUGUST 20 AFTER
AN INTERRUPTION OF SEVERAL DAYS. THE PHU LOC DISTRICT CHIEF,
WHO HAS PULLED ONE OF HIS RF BATTALIONS OFF SEARCH OPERATIONS
TO PROTECT THE ENGINEERS FROM ENEMY HARASSMENT, DOES NOT RPT
NOT EXPECT THAT THE OUTPOST WILL BE ABANDONED WHEN BAD WEATHER
PRECLUDES NORMAL RESUPPLY BY AIR. HE INSISTS THAT THE RF COMPANY
ON THE TOP CAN BE SUPPLIED BY PORTERS AND BY HELICOPTERS
DURING BREAKS IN THE WEATHER.

D. ARRO HUE FURTHER REPORTS THAT THE ENEMY APPEARS TO BE
INCREASING EFFORTS TO PROCURE A SHARE OF THE EIGHTH LUNAR
MONTH RICE HARVEST IN PHONG DIEN AND PHU LOC DISTRICTS WHERE
THE CROPS WILL BE BETTER THAN AVERAGE. AN AMBUSH SET UP BY
TERRITORIAL FORCES NEAR THE BORDER BETWEEN PHU LOC AND HUONG
THUY DISTRICTS NETTED VC CADRE, ONE OF WHOM SAID HIS GROUP
WAS PART OF THE "FINANCE CADRE" WHOSE MISSION WAS TO PURCHASE
FROM THREE TO FOUR THOUSAND BAGS OF RICE FROM THE AREA. HE
HAD MADE TWO SUCCESSFUL SHOPPING TRIPS BEFORE BEING AMBUSHED.
THUA THIEN NATIONAL POLICE COMMANDER, MAJOR LIEN THANH, IS
MOUNTING OPERATIONS AGAINST THE SAME PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES
PLANNED FOR PHONG DIEN DISTRICT. ACCORDING TO THANH, THE
NATIONAL POLICE HAS PIN-POINTED ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THE
NETWORK AND HE IS WAITING FOR THEM TO MOVE BEFORE HE ORDERS
THE PRINCIPALS ROUNDED UP.
POPPLE UNQUOTE:
MARTIN

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